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ABSTRACT

This document, the seventh annual bulletin presenting statistics from the Uniform Parole Reports and the National Probation Reports, indicates the relative use of different types of correctional sanctions in the United States. It notes that during 1987, 2,242,053 adult offenders in the United States were on probation and 362,192 were on parole, and that on any given day in 1987, 1 out of every 53 adults in the United States were under some form of correctional supervision. Statistics are included which show that: (1) the probation population in 1987 gained 6% over the 1986 count, with the highest gains in the Midwest and West and the lowest gains in the South; (2) six states reported increases in their probation populations of over 12% and eight states showed decreases in their populations; (3) of individual states, Texas reported the largest probation and parole populations; (4) the parole population grew 11% over the 1986 figure, with seven states reporting increases above 20% of their 1986 parole population; (5) 13 states reported a declining parole population in 1987; and (6) the Northeast, the region with the smallest increase in the number of parolees, had the highest ratio of parolees to residents. Other figures are given on adults under correctional supervision and on types of releases from prisons. Probation notes are included for 11 states; parole notes are given for 30 states. Tables illustrate the number of adults on probation in 1987; adults on parole in 1987; correctional populations for the years 1983-1987; and state prison releases by method for the years 1977-1987. (NB)

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Bureau of Justice Statistics Bulletin

Probation and Parole 1987

During 1987 the number of adults on probation or on parole from prison increased to record high levels. State and Federal agencies reported that 2,242,053 offenders were on probation and 362,192 offenders were on parole--an estimated 1.45% of all adults in the United States.

The total number of adults in the Nation under some form of correctional supervision, including those in local jails or State and Federal prisons, reached a new high of over 3.4 million--an increase of 6.8% since 1986 and 40% since 1983. An estimated 1 out of every 53 adults in the United States were under some form of correctional supervision on a given day in 1987.

Probation

The probation population in 1987 showed a 6% gain over the previous year's count (table 1). The increases for the States as a whole exceeded the increase in the Federal system by 1.5 percentage points. The increase in the probation population occurred in every region, with the Midwest and West reporting the highest gains (8.7% and 8.6%) and the South the lowest (3.8%).

Six States reported increases in their probation populations of over 12%: Missouri (21.4%), Washington (17.6%), Delaware (16.3%), New Hampshire (15.8%), Minnesota (14%), and Indiana (12.1%). Eight States showed decreases ranging from 0.1% in Texas to 11.5% in Colorado.

As a ratio per 100,000 adult residents, the probation population in the South was the highest--1,441 offenders per 100,000 adult residents. This ratio surpassed that for the West by 354 persons, the Northeast by 346, and the Midwest by 340.

Of individual States, Georgia had the highest rate of persons on probation--2,463 per 100,000 adult residents of the State. Texas, Maryland, and Massachusetts also had more than 2,000 persons on probation for every 100,000 adult residents.

At the end of 1987 Texas reported the largest number of persons on probation, nearly 290,000. Federal probationers accounted for 2.7% of the national caseload.

During 1987 there were nearly 1.4 million admissions to probation supervision. Of the reporting jurisdictions, Florida reported the largest number of entries, almost 174,000. Entries to Federal probation were 1.7% of the Nation's admissions.

Parole

The parole population grew 11% over the previous year (table 2). In both 1986 and 1987 the parole population was the fastest growing of the four components of corrections.

Seven States reported increases above 20% of their 1986 parole populations: Louisiana (73.9%), Nebraska (51%), North Carolina (39.9%), Washington (36.3%), California (24.6%), Missouri (21.6%), and Idaho (20.7%). Among the regions of the country, the parole populations in the West showed the largest percentage increase over the year, gaining almost 22%. States in the Northeast had the slowest growing parole population, with a regional increase of 3.1%.

Thirteen States in 1987 reported a declining parole population. The average decrease for these States was 10.3%. Connecticut, Florida, Vermont, and West Virginia each reduced its parole population more than 13% during 1987.

November 1988

This is the seventh annual Bureau of Justice Statistics bulletin presenting statistics from the Uniform Parole Reports (UPR) and the National Probation Reports (NPR). In conjunction with counts of jail and prison populations, the data presented here indicate the relative use of different types of correctional sanctions in the United States.

BJS gratefully acknowledges the generous cooperation of probation and parole agencies participating in these surveys.

Joseph M. Bessette
Acting Director

The Northeast, the region with the smallest increase in the number of persons on parole, had the highest ratio of parolees to residents: 238 per 100,000 adults. Of the States, Texas had the highest ratio, 570 per 100,000. Pennsylvania reported the second highest ratio, 423 per 100,000 adults.

At the end of 1987 Texas maintained the largest parole population of any reporting jurisdiction, more than 67,000. The Federal parole population accounted for 5.1% of all parolees in the United States.

California's total of 51,123 admissions to parole supervision during the year was the largest of any State. Federal parole entries were 4.2% of admissions nationwide.

Adults under correctional supervision

Of the more than 3.4 million adults under the care or custody of a correctional agency on a given day in 1987, 3 out of 4 offenders were living in the community:

Supervised in the community	75.2%
Probation	64.7
Parole	10.5
Incarcerated	24.8%
Jail	8.5
Prison	16.3
Total under correctional supervision	100%

The probation and parole populations not only exceeded the number of persons in correctional facilities, but from 1983 to 1987 they increased at a higher rate (table 3).* The community-based population grew by more than 40% during the 5-year period; by comparison, the number of jail and prison inmates had increased about 33% over the same period.

Types of release from prison

More than 80% of those released from prison receive supervision in the community. Prisoners enter parole supervision either by a discretionary parole board decision or by fulfilling the conditions for a mandatory release.

In most jurisdictions the parole board has discretionary authority to release prisoners to conditional supervision in the community based on statutory or administrative determinations of eligibility. Usually prisoners must serve some fraction of the minimum or maximum sentence before becoming eligible for parole.

In other jurisdictions, primarily those with determinate sentencing statutes, inmates are conditionally released from prison when they have served their original sentence minus time off for good behavior or program participation; this type of release is referred to as supervised mandatory release. In both discretionary parole release and supervised mandatory release, conditions of the release are supervised by a parole officer, and rule violations or new crimes may result in a return to prison for the balance of the unexpired sentence.

By contrast, unconditional prison releases are those prison releases in which the offender's obligation to serve a sentence has been fully satisfied. Expiration of term, for example, refers to a release from prison after full service of a sentence or after reductions for earned credits. No further conditional supervision in the community is required.

The percent of supervised mandatory releases from prison increased about fivefold during the past decade, from about 6% of all releases in 1977 to over 31% in 1987 (table 4). By contrast, prisoners released by a parole board decision declined from nearly 72% of all releases in 1977 to 41% in 1987.

*A small fraction of the increase may result from reports of local probation agencies that formerly did not report.

Table 1. Adults on probation, 1987

Regions and jurisdictions	Probation population 1/1/87	1987 Entries	1987 Exits	Probation population 12/31/87	Percent change in probation population during 1987	Number on probation on 12/31/87 per 100,000 adult residents
U.S. total	2,114,821	1,376,244	1,249,012	2,242,053	6.0%	1,247
Federal	57,337	23,077	20,428	59,986	4.6	33
State	2,057,484	1,353,167	1,228,584	2,182,067	6.1	1,213
Northeast	395,836	215,530	193,093	418,273	5.7%	1,095
Connecticut	41,304	30,841	28,486	43,659	5.7	1,779
Maine	4,620	3,281	3,296	4,605	-.3	521
Massachusetts	94,945	56,390	53,274	98,061	3.3	2,170
New Hampshire	3,583	3,001	2,434	4,150	15.8	525
New Jersey	51,359	27,817	23,389	55,787	8.6	955
New York	107,337	42,724	36,908	113,153	5.4	840
Pennsylvania	78,985	43,977	37,878	85,084	7.7	937
Rhode Island	8,174	4,915	4,908	8,181	.1	1,081
Vermont	5,529	2,584	2,520	5,593	1.2	1,371
Midwest	444,241	349,004	310,189	483,056	8.7%	1,101
Illinois	76,203	51,319	45,190	82,332	8.0	963
Indiana	50,806	51,410	45,238	56,978	12.1	1,403
Iowa	12,584	11,756	11,595	12,745	1.3	606
Kansas	17,125	8,666	7,602	18,189	6.2	997
Michigan	102,653	82,928	71,585	113,996	11.0	1,691
Minnesota[a]	38,901	40,397	34,935	44,363	14.0	1,415
Missouri	33,819	28,700	21,451	41,068	21.4	1,082
Nebraska	11,265	11,514	11,268	11,511	2.2	983
North Dakota	1,544	788	716	1,616	4.7	333
Ohio	72,339	45,316	46,163	71,492	-1.2	906
South Dakota	2,354	4,416	4,176	2,594	10.2	506
Wisconsin	24,648	11,794	10,270	26,172	6.2	740
South	854,043	559,825	527,589	886,282	3.8%	1,441
Alabama	21,371	10,502	8,467	23,406	9.5	789
Arkansas[b]	12,700	2,981	2,206	13,475	6.1	774
Delaware	7,985	5,544	4,241	9,288	16.3	1,927
Dist. of Col.	12,307	9,370	10,880	10,797	-12.3	2,222
Florida	139,859	173,888	160,537	153,210	9.5	1,644
Georgia	109,485	61,235	60,236	110,484	.9	2,463
Kentucky	6,841	4,579	4,239	7,181	5.0	263
Louisiana	27,677	10,134	7,498	30,313	9.5	964
Maryland	69,134	43,700	40,018	72,816	5.3	2,135
Mississippi	6,458	2,930	2,636	6,752	4.6	368
North Carolina	58,644	33,519	29,223	62,940	7.3	1,315
Oklahoma	22,740	12,571	11,758	23,553	3.6	990
South Carolina	21,110	13,406	10,908	23,608	11.8	950
Tennessee	26,291	18,944	18,832	26,403	.4	733
Texas	290,074	146,810	147,194	289,690	-.1	2,454
Virginia	17,126	7,418	6,599	17,945	4.8	404
West Virginia	4,241	2,297	2,117	4,421	4.2	314
West	363,364	228,805	197,713	394,456	8.6%	1,087
Alaska	2,885	1,251	1,195	2,941	1.9	831
Arizona	20,283	10,082	7,767	22,598	11.4	916
California	218,526	139,110	117,785	239,851	9.8	1,178
Colorado	16,335	8,298	10,177	14,456	-11.5	597
Hawaii	8,404	5,983	5,505	8,882	5.7	1,114
Idaho	3,770	2,197	1,821	4,146	10.0	598
Montana	2,943	1,091	866	3,168	7.6	542
Nevada[b]	5,518	2,904	3,084	5,338	-3.3	707
New Mexico	4,175	3,948	4,113	4,010	-4.0	381
Oregon	23,402	10,402	10,833	22,971	-1.8	1,127
Utah	5,620	3,738	3,525	5,833	3.8	555
Washington	49,663	38,740	29,982	58,421	17.6	1,734
Wyoming	1,840	1,061	1,060	1,841	.1	538

[a]The State estimated exits.

[b]The State estimated all of its data.

Probation notes

Because many States update their population counts, the January 1, 1987, numbers may differ from those previously published for December 31, 1986.

Alabama--The 1987 beginning and yearend counts reflect the addition of Birmingham and Huntsville Municipal Probation Departments.

Arkansas--The State estimated all its data.

Indiana--The data are for calendar year 1986.

Minnesota--The State revised the yearend 1986 count to include 3,674 cases under supervision by the Alternative Sentencing or Case Manager Programs. Data on exits were estimated.

Missouri--The 1987 beginning and yearend counts reflect the addition of cases from the St. Louis office.

Nevada--The State estimated all data.

New Jersey--The State counted 1,188 transfers from other States as entries.

New Mexico--The State counted neither absconders nor persons supervised out-of-State.

Utah--The State excluded from its yearend count cases under interstate compact (an agreement for transferring persons under supervision to another State.)

Virginia--The probation data are from the fiscal year ending June 30, 1986. Virginia did not include absconders in its yearend count.

Washington--The State included absconders, a category excluded from their count before 1987.

Parole notes

Because many States update their population counts, the January 1, 1987, numbers may differ from those previously reported for December 31, 1986.

Alabama--Data include 47 local parolees unreported in 1986. The State estimated entries and exits.

Alaska--The State excluded data describing 150 persons on mandatory parole.

California--The State reported releases to parole from both the Department of Corrections (DOC) and the California Youth Authority. Exits include 6,225 absconders (DOC).

Colorado--The State placed absconders in an inactive caseload but included them in the yearend population counts. Colorado estimated exits.

Connecticut--Data include interstate compact cases under supervision within the State.

Table 2. Adults on parole, 1987

Regions and jurisdictions	Parole population 1/1/87	1987 Entries	1987 Exits	Parole population 12/31/87	Percent change in parole population during 1987	Number on parole on 12/31/87 per 100,000 adult residents
U.S. total	326,259	239,752	203,819	362,192	11.0%	201
Federal	17,496	9,956	8,874	18,578	6.2	10
State	308,763	229,796	194,945	343,614	11.3	191
Northeast	88,327	47,830	45,059	91,098	3.1%	238
Connecticut	603	120	257	466	-22.7	19
Maine[a]	...	...	...	...		
Massachusetts[b]	3,998	3,910	3,890	4,018	.5	89
New Hampshire	539	229	128	640	18.7	81
New Jersey	14,064	8,154	6,509	15,709	11.7	269
New York	29,325	15,380	13,461	31,244	6.5	232
Pennsylvania	39,008	19,600	20,210	38,398	-1.6	423
Rhode Island	453	367	397	423	-6.6	56
Vermont	337	70	207	200	-40.6	49
Midwest	43,114	35,344	31,952	46,506	7.9%	106
Illinois	12,311	9,398	8,143	13,566	10.2	159
Indiana	3,273	4,225	4,427	3,071	-6.2	76
Iowa	1,929	1,517	1,480	1,966	1.9	94
Kansas	2,360	1,576	1,260	2,676	13.4	147
Michigan	5,703	4,690	4,028	6,365	11.6	94
Minnesota	1,437	1,580	1,573	1,444	.5	46
Missouri[c]	5,229	3,801	2,672	6,358	21.6	168
Nebraska	304	673	518	459	51.0	39
North Dakota	159	153	161	151	-5.0	31
Ohio	6,147	4,865	5,024	5,988	-2.6	75
South Dakota	408	480	419	469	14.9	91
Wisconsin	3,854	2,386	2,247	3,993	3.6	113
South	124,304	80,726	63,520	141,510	13.8%	230
Alabama[b]	3,038	1,566	1,186	3,418	12.5	115
Arkansas	4,023	1,850	1,941	3,932	-2.3	226
Delaware	978	594	459	1,113	13.8	231
Dist. of Col.	2,980	2,059	1,205	3,834	28.7	789
Florida	3,478	2,325	2,930	2,873	-17.4	31
Georgia	10,421	7,654	7,158	10,917	4.8	243
Kentucky	3,370	2,376	2,408	3,338	-.9	122
Louisiana	4,166	3,748	671	7,243	73.9	230
Maryland	7,494	5,210	4,641	8,063	7.6	236
Mississippi	3,454	1,616	1,614	3,456	.1	189
North Carolina	3,322	6,925	5,601	4,646	39.9	97
Oklahoma	1,670	579	487	1,762	5.5	74
South Carolina	3,066	1,076	923	3,219	5.0	130
Tennessee	8,600	4,714	4,051	9,263	7.7	257
Texas	57,509	31,563	21,764	67,308	17.0	570
Virginia	5,767	6,513	5,996	6,284	9.0	141
West Virginia	968	358	485	841	-13.1	60
West	53,018	65,896	54,414	64,500	21.7%	178
Alaska	119	99	83	135	13.4	38
Arizona	2,034	3,046	2,852	2,224	9.3	90
California	33,172	51,123	42,960	41,335	24.6	203
Colorado[d]	1,827	1,556	1,703	1,680	-8.1	69
Hawaii	921	522	431	1,012	9.9	127
Idaho	531	355	245	641	20.7	92
Montana[c]	668	310	354	624	-6.6	107
Nevada[c]	1,529	1,272	1,203	1,598	4.5	212
New Mexico	1,147	1,306	1,259	1,194	4.1	113
Oregon	1,973	1,897	1,754	2,116	7.2	104
Utah	1,094	669	626	1,137	3.9	108
Washington[b]	7,666	3,556	776	10,446	36.3	310
Wyoming	337	185	164	358	6.2	105

...Not applicable.
[a]Maine eliminated parole in 1976. See parole notes for more detail.
[b]The State estimated entries and exits.
[c]The State estimated all of its data.
[d]The State estimated the number of exits.

Delaware--The State supervised only persons sentenced to a year or more.

District of Columbia--The District adjusted the previously reported yearend 1986 population after purging the warrant issued status files.

Georgia--The State counted absconders in its yearend parole population.

Illinois--The yearend 1987 count includes persons under parole supervision in other States. Illinois reported 12,137 persons under active supervision within the State.

Indiana--Data exclude interstate compact cases.

Kansas--The State monitors absconders apart from the regular parole caseload and omits them from the reported counts.

Table 3. Correctional populations, percent of adult population under sanction, and percent change, 1983-87

	1983		1984		1985		1986		1987		Percent increase in correctional populations 1983-87
	Number	Percent of adult population	Number	Percent of adult population	Number	Percent of adult population	Number	Percent of adult population	Number	Percent of adult population	
Correctional populations total	2,475,100	1.44%	2,684,222	1.55%	3,011,494	1.71%	3,239,631	1.82%	3,460,960	1.92%	39.8%
Probation	1,582,947	.92	1,740,948	1.00	1,968,712	1.12	2,114,821	1.19	2,242,053	1.25	41.6
Jail*	221,815	.13	233,018	.13	254,986	.15	272,736	.15	294,092	.16	32.6
Prison	423,898	.25	448,264	.26	487,593	.28	526,436	.30	562,623	.31	32.7
Parole	246,440	.14	266,992	.15	300,203	.17	325,638	.18	362,192	.20	47.0

Note: The following are estimates of the U.S. resident population age 18 and older on July 1: 1983—171,332,000; 1984—173,469,000; 1985—175,727,000; 1986—177,807,000; and 1987—179,856,000. Population counts for probation, parole, and prison custody are for December 31, and jail counts are for June 30. Every year some States update their report; this table uses the corrected counts.
*Estimates of jail populations include convicted and unconvicted adult inmates.

Table 4. State prison releases by method, 1977-87

		Percent of prison releases							
			Conditional releases				Unconditional releases		
Year	Total releases from prisons	All	Discretionary parole	Supervised mandatory release	Probation	Other	Expiration of sentence	Commutation	Other
1977	115,213	100%	71.9%	5.9%	3.6%	1.0%	16.1%	1.1%	.4%
1978	119,796	100	70.4	5.8	3.3	2.3	17.0	.7	.5
1979	128,954	100	60.2	16.9	3.3	2.4	16.3	.4	.6
1980	136,968	100	57.4	19.5	3.6	3.2	14.9	.5	.8
1981	142,489	100	54.6	21.4	3.7	3.1	13.9	2.4	1.0
1982	157,144	100%	51.9%	24.4%	4.8%	3.6%	14.4%	.3%	.6%
1983	191,237	100	48.1	26.9	5.2	2.5	16.1	.5	.6
1984	191,499	100	46.0	28.7	4.9	2.7	16.3	.5	.9
1985	203,895	100	43.2	30.8	4.5	3.0	16.9	.4	1.2
1986	230,672	100	43.2	31.1	4.5	4.6	14.8	.3	1.4
1987	270,506	100	40.6	31.2	4.4	5.7	16.2	1.0	.9

Note: The data are from the National Prisoner Statistics reporting program. The total releases from State prison are those for which the method of release was reported. Deaths, unspecified releases, transfers, and escapes were not included. Altogether, 305,098 persons were released or removed from State prisons in 1987.

Maine--The State abolished parole in 1976. There remain 41 pre-1976 parolees under supervision and 35 in prison who will become eligible for parole.

Massachusetts--The State estimated data for entries and exits.

Mississippi--Yearend population counts omit absconders.

Missouri--The State estimated the 1987 parole data.

Montana--Montana estimated data from available manual records.

Nebraska--Data include only parolees under supervision within the State.

Nevada--The State estimated all data.

New Mexico--The 1987 yearend count omits 184 absconders and 198 parolees supervised out-of-State.

New York--Although the State supervises parolees from county facilities, it excluded 301 such cases from the count.

North Carolina--Absconders and transfers to other jurisdictions remain in the active caseload.

North Dakota--The State counted absconders in the yearend population.

Oklahoma--The State does not consider discharged absconders; persons discharged to custody, detainer, or warrant; or transfers to other jurisdictions to be exits. They are carried as administrative caseload.

Pennsylvania--Local authorities supervised 25,615 parolees. Persons returning to prison with new charges pending or parole revocation pending were not counted as exits.

Rhode Island-Parole data for 1987 include 17 persons being held on detention warrants, 1 person serving a Federal sentence, 6 persons being supervised by the U.S. Immigration Service, and 3 participants in the Federal Witness Protection Program.

South Dakota--The reporting period was for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1987. The State kept absconders in its yearend parole counts.

Texas--The reporting period was for the fiscal year ending August 31, 1987.

Virginia--The State reported 837 transfers as entries and an unspecified number of transfers as exits.

Washington--The State estimated the number of entries and exits. It placed absconders in an inactive caseload and omitted them from the population count.

West Virginia--West Virginia in 1987 began to report cases being supervised out-of-State.

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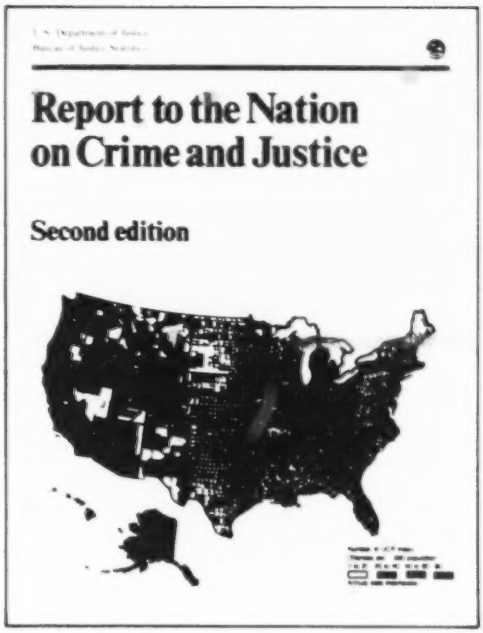

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  - Border interdiction
  - Investigation
  - Seizure & forfeiture
  - Prosecution
- Consumption reduction
  - Prevention
  - Education
  - Treatment

Consequences of drug use

- Abuse
  - Addiction
  - Overdose
  - Death
- Crime
  - While on drugs
  - For drug money
  - Trafficking
- Impact on justice system
- Social disruption

The Data Center & Clearinghouse for Drugs & Crime is funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance and directed by the Bureau of Justice Statistics of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Major heroin smuggling routes into the United States

DEA Quarterly Intelligence Trends

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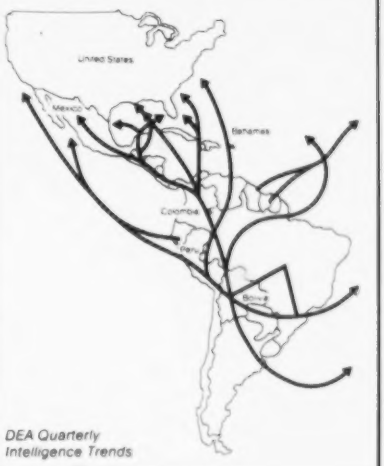

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(revised November 1988)

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- Drugs and crime data (new)
- White-collar crime (new)
- National Crime Survey (annual)
- Corrections (annual)
- Juvenile corrections (annual)
- Courts (annual)
- Privacy and security of criminal history information and information policy
- Federal statistics (annual)
- BJS bulletins and special reports (approximately twice a month)
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